	1997-98			Apr-Sept '98		
	Plan	Actual	%Ful	Plan	Actual	%Ful
RSP	1240	1181	95	649	510	79
BSL	3310	2748	83	1240	1003	81
SAIL 4 Plant	9300	8712	94	4186	3836	92
ASP	180	154	86	63	52	82
SSP	120	177	147	100	65	65
SAIL	9600	9043	94	4349	3954	91

(b) The financial performance of SAIL units for the last three years is as under:

(Rs./Crores)

	Profit/Loss (−) [Before Tax]		
	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Bhilai Steel Plant	819	684	701
Durgapur Steel Plant	−174	−234	−509
Rourkela Steel Plant	−57	−316	−374
Bokaro Steel Plant	806	357	367
Alloy Steel Plant	1	−67	−88
Salem Steel Plant	4	−38	−120

(c) and (d) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has recommended financial restructuring of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) which primarily envisages relief from Steel Development Fund (SDF) loan/Government of India loan towards writing down of fixed assets to the extent of interest capitalised, writing-off of loans and advances given by SAIL to IISCO, etc. The IDBI have, in their report, inter-alia also concluded that SAIL should consider business solutions as a long term strategy for improving operations and enhancing returns such as rationalization/divestment of idle or non-core assets, divestment from unrelated/non-core operations, and of loss making units, etc.

SAIL is taking various measures on a continuous basis which inter-alia include reduction in cost by improving the techno-economic parameters, demand oriented production, improving quality of products, and increasing sales through aggressive and customer oriented marketing, etc.

Tapping Mineral Resources in N.F. Region

1661. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched any survey/project to assess the possibilities of tapping mineral resources of North-East Region in general and Assam in particular;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details of the recent investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Mineral Exploration Corporation (MECL) are as follows:—

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

(i) Lead-Zinc, Shergaon area, West Kameng district-Exploration has not yielded any significant results.

(ii) Gold/Platinoid in Vijayanagar area, Changlang district—Exploration has yielded content of insignificant gold and PGM.

(iii) Ferrosilicon grade quartzite near Kalaktang Exploration established 3.13 mt. reserves.

(iv) Exploratory drilling has been carried out in Namchik Eastern Extn. Block, Changlong District with reserves of 29.07 million tonnes of coal resource.

(v) Exploratory drilling has also been carried out in Namchik west & western Extn-block and central block in Changlong district leading to findings of reserves of 9,956 million tonnes and 16.70 million tonnes of coal resource resepectively.

ASSAM

(i) Granite as dimension stone is demarcated in Burapahar—Sckoni ridge area, Nowgong and Karbi Anglong districts.

(ii) In Kaliyani/Diju valley areas, Karbi Anglong district—geological studies have not yielded any significant results of gold.

(iii) Banded Iron Formation of Goalpara and Kamrup districts is currently under investigation for gold.

(iv) Drilling exploration for coal in Dibrugarh Sibsagar and Tinsukia districts has established a total reserves of 133.948 m.t.

MANIPUR

(i) Pods of chromite have been delineated in Nampisha-Kwatha area of Chandel and Ukhrul districts.

MEGHALAYA

(i) The details of estimated recoverable reserves of different grades of limestones in Meghalaya State are as under:

	Recoverable reserves as on1.4.95 (in '000 tonnes)
Chemical	281,832
S.M.S. (OH)	2,790,525
S.M.S. (LD)	58,575
B.F.	30,000
S.M.S. & B.F. mixed	589,750
Cement (Portland)	173,895
Cement (Portland) & White	2625

(ii) Gold content upto 0.4 ppm is reported in Mawphlang sector, East Khasi Hills. Drilling is on going for reported occurrence of galena in Mawamaram area, Shillong plateau.

(iii) Granite as dimension stone in Mylliem Nongstoin, Sonapahar and Hallidayganj areas have been delineated.

(iv) Exploration for sillimanite in Sonapahar Block, West Khasi Hills district, yielded reserves of 5850 tonnes of grade-II.

(v) Exploration for coal in Siju coal block, West Garo Hills and Narghyllum block, West Khasi Hills, yielded reserves of 70.560 million tonnes and 8.858 million tonnes respectively.

(vi) Exploration of clay in the State has established reserves of 80.11 million tonnes of different category and grades.

NAGALAND

(i) Exploration for coal in Borjan block, Mon district, yielded reserves of 2.445 million tonnes.

(c) Question does not arise.